A CATECHISM ON COLLEGE FEDERATION.

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FEDERATION is a live question, especially as we now approach the practical part of it. When men are requested to contribute liberally towards a great Church enterprise they naturally ask questions. Plenty of light, therefore, is very desirable, particularly in a good cause. In the following I have endeavoured to answer the leading questions an honest inquirer might ask who had not followed up the subject closely, and yet desired to contribute intelligently:

1. What is the present endowment of Victoria College?

ANSWER.—$169,548.

2. What was its income last year?

A. $19,996. Over $8,000 of this was from fees and the Educational Society, and the balance from the interest of the Endowment Fund.

3. What is the total number of its graduates?

A. 2,219, of whom 542 are graduates in Arts which, with the graduates of next year, will entitle the Arts graduates under Federation to a direct representation of six upon the University Senate. (Fed. Act, Sec. 11 (3.)

4. What is the present debt of Victoria College?

A. About $30,000.

5. What was the origin of Federation?

A. On the request of the Toronto University for more money from the Legislature, the denominational colleges protested, unless their work was recognized. A conference of heads of colleges was held to devise some possible plan of agreement, the result of which is embodied in the Federation Act of 1887.

6. Did those universities which stayed out do so from any defects in the scheme educationally considered?

A. No, but principally from the expense of removal. In staying out they suited themselves; in going in we did the same for ourselves.

7. How many subjects are to be taught by the common university faculty?

A. Nineteen, principally in Mathematics, the Physical Sciences, Philosophy, Logic, Metaphysics, Political Science and the Romance Languages. (Fed. Act, Sec. 5 (1.)

8. What Arts colleges at present are federating?

A. University College and Victoria College.

9. By the Federation Act is Victoria College debarred from teaching any or all the nineteen subjects above referred to?

A. No; but of course one main object is to secure the advantages of this teaching department.

10. By the Federation Act is University College debarred from teaching any of these nineteen subjects?

A. Yes. (Fed. Act, Sec. 77.)

11. How many subjects of the Arts course will University College teach?

A. Eight, viz, Latin, Greek, Ancient History, English, French, German, Oriental Languages and Moral Philosophy. (Fed. Act, Sec. 77.)

12. How many subjects of the Arts course will Victoria College teach?

A. Thirteen. The above eight and five additional, viz., Biblical Greek Biblical Literature, Christian Ethics, Church History and the Evidences of Natural and Revealed Religion, more than one-half of the B.A. Course

13. Is it true that under Federation we lose beyond recovery our degree-conferring power?

A. No It is only held in abeyance during the continuance of Federation, and in the case of theological degrees the original power possessed may still be exercised as before. (Fed. Act, Sec. 6 (1. 2.)

14. Are we compelled to stay in for all time?

A. No. After three years we may withdraw if we choose. (Fed. Act, Sec. 6 (3.)

15. What process is necessary in order to withdraw?

A. One year's notice, by the proper officer, of our intention to resume the degree-conferring power is to be given to the Provincial Secretary, proclamation of which shall be made in the *Ontario Gazette.* (Fed. Act, Sec. 6 (3)

16. How many members will there be in the new Senate?

A. About sixty. In that body we have direct proportionate representation (Fed. Act, Sec. 11), and indirectly we have as much likelihood of securing the representation of our views as any others. Moreover, the Government has promised in making appointments from time to time in the Senate to have regard to the new relation of Victoria to the University. (Jour. Gen. Conf., 1886, p. 200.) There will be no necessity for keeping up the ideas of "ours" and "theirs." The degrees conferred will be as much "ours" as "theirs."

17. Is the transfer of subjects from the University to University College and *vice versa*, sufficiently guarded against?

A. Yes, strongly. The transfer must have the *unanimous* consent of the Senate at a meeting called specially for such purpose one month in advance, and concurred in by the Lieutenant-Governor in Council. (Fed. Act, Sec. 87.)

18. Will not the appointment by the Government of the professors of the University, and of University College, place them beyond our direct influence or control?

A. No. The Senate may of its own motion enquire into the conduct, teaching and efficiency of any professor or teacher in either the University or University College, and report to the Lieutenant-Governor the result of such enquiry, with such recommendations as they think the case may require. (Fed. Act, Sec. 45.)

19. What proportion of Methodist students attended Toronto University last year?

A. About one-fifth of the whole, or nearly one-third of the number of Arts students attending at Cobourg.

20. What effect will Federation have on Victoria College as to the probable number of its students?

A. All regular Arts students in order to be entitled to free tuition in the branches taught by the University Faculty will have to be enrolled either in Victoria College or University College. (Fed. Act, Sec. 5 (4.) No pessimist even has yet ventured to predict that, under this regulation, Victoria College will have enrolled a less number of students than at present. With more commodious buildings and larger endowment the new Victoria will be in a better position than ever before. A very moderate estimate is that she will hold all who are now going, or would go, to Cobourg, and in addition the majority of those Methodist students (about 60 in number) now attending at Toronto. If we secure all our own youth there can be no cause for complaint.

21. But by the Act does not University College possess some advantage over Victoria College?

A. None whatever. All graduates and undergraduates of Victoria College shall have the same standing in the University as they had in their own college. (Fed. Act, Sec. 7.) Moreover attendance or instruction in Victoria College will be accorded equal value to that of University College as a condition of proceeding to any degree. (Fed. Act, Sec. 38 (4.)

22. Will not all the Arts work, performed by Victoria College under Federation, be quite unknown and unrecognized?

A. No. Every diploma of graduation or standing issued by the Senate, in addition to being signed by the proper University authorities, shall indicate the federating University in which the student was enrolled, and shall be signed by the officers and professors of such federating University. (Fed. Act, Sec. 38 (2.)

23. Will Victoria College ever likely become merely a theological college?

A. If a sufficient endowment is now raised, there is no probability that Victoria College will ever teach less than the thirteen subjects in the Arts course now voluntarily undertaken. Those anti-Federationists who have such a horror of a mere theological school are themselves, by withholding their contributions, doing all in their power to reduce it to such.

24. How much is wanted, in addition to our present endowment, to erect suitable buildings and perform creditably that share of Arts work undertaken by us?

A. $450,000.

25. Do we gain or lose financially by Federation?

A. Gain. Considerably so in the outlay of capital. It is true it was estimated that to stay in Cobourg would only require $300,000, but there was no general agreement even among anti-Federationists in favour of staying there Scarcely any have ventured to predict that even this money could be raised for that locality. The subject really narrowed itself down to Hamilton with a full university course, or Toronto with or without Federation. Independence in Toronto would require at least $700,000; Federation, $450,000; gain in the outlay of capital by Federation in Toronto, $250,000. Independence in Hamilton would require $550,000; gain by Federation over independence in Hamilton, $100,000. (Jour. General Conference 1886, pp. 198, 199.)

26. By Federation do we gain or lose as to annual expenditure?

A. Gain. The estimated annual expenditure under Federation is $30,000, under independence in Toronto $42,000; annual gain, $12,000. In Hamilton, $40,000; annual gain, $10,000. In Cobourg, $32,000; annual gain, $2,000. (Jour. Gen. Conf. 1886, p. 199.) These rough estimates were made last year. But in view of what has been since done by McMaster and other colleges, much larger sums would be now required for an independent university.

27. How do you account for Federation being the most economical with admittedly equal or even superior educational advantages?

A. *(a)* By saving the purchase of a site. Under Federation we have the possession of a site, so long as Federation continues, of four or five acres in the Queen's Park, held by perpetual lease at a rental of one dollar per year, the purchase value of which is estimated at more than $50,000.

(b) We are saved from teaching a considerable part of the Arts course by the University Faculty which is provided by the Government. This great reservoir of learning which, it is estimated, would take $500,000 to duplicate, may be drawn upon by all our students "without money and without price." (Fed. Act, Sec. 5 (4.)

28. Suppose we wish to withdraw from Federation what arrangement is made as to the rent of the site?

A. The amount of rent may be decided by arbitration in the usual way, say, every twenty-one years. (Jour. Gen. Con. 1886, p. 200.)

29. In the agreement with the Government is there any provision made for the purchase of the site?

A. Yes. We have the privilege of purchase at any future time at a valuation to be fixed now.

30. When the Federation Bill was passing through the Legislature were there any public complaints by the Board of Regents or by our Church of unfairness or bad faith?

A. None whatever.

31. Is there a general or only a local majority in our Church in favour of Federation?

A. General. In analysing the vote given in the General Conference we find that the following representation from Annual Conferences of the west gave majorities in favour of Federation, viz., Toronto, London, Niagara, Guelph and Montreal Conferences. The Bay of Quinte Conference (in which Cobourg is situated) was against. While the General Conference gave a majority of twenty-five, the two provinces most interested in the question gave a majority of thirty-four, viz., Ontario twenty-four, and Quebec ten.

32. What is the attitude of the Annual Conferences on this question since the General Conference?

A. In the Toronto Conference no vote was taken, but the members up to the end of last June had subscribed about $40,000; the London Conference accepted $35,000; the Niagara Conference pledged itself to raise its equitable share of $450,000; the Guelph Conference accepted $32,000, and raised by subscription in the Conference $10,025; the Bay of Quinte Conference agreed to do what was contemplated by the General Conference, but could not pledge any definite and fixed amount; the Montreal Conference urged the Board of Regents not to enter Federation until $450,000 was assured; and the Manitoba Conference commended the Building Fund to the hearty sympathy and support of their people.

33. What alternative scheme do the anti-Federationists propose?

A. They are united upon none. They only agree to oppose Federation. Any alternative proposal whatever would break up their ranks in hopeless confusion.

34. What is the duty of the hour?

A. To accept loyally the decision of the General Conference, and to sustain liberally its policy. No organization whatever could stand long if a minority could thwart the will of the majority in regard to legislation which was enacted by its supreme court after a fair, full and free discussion.

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